

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
18 March 2004 (18.03.2004)

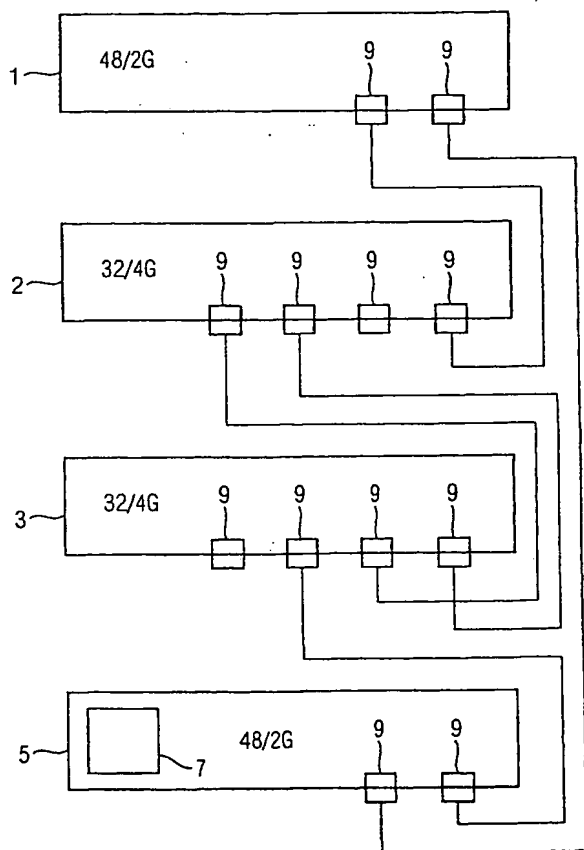
PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/023722 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: H04L 12/24, 12/44, 12/28, 12/56
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/SG2002/000213
- (22) International Filing Date: 6 September 2002 (06.09.2002)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): INFINEON TECHNOLOGIES AG [DE/DE]; St.-Martin-Strasse 53, 81669 Munich (DE).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): MISHRA, Shridhar, Mubaraq [IN/SG]; 1325A Spruce Street, Berkeley, CA 94709 (SG). PANDEY, Pramod, Kumar [IN/SG]; Blk 226, Pasir Ris St 21 #11-72, Singapore 510226 (SG).
- (74) Agent: WATKIN, Timothy, Lawrence, Harvey; Lloyd Wise, Tanjong Pagar, P.O. Box 636, Singapore 910816 (SG).
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: STACKING A PLURALITY OF DATA SWITCHES



(57) Abstract: A plurality of data switches such as Ethernet switches 1, 2, 3, 5 are connected to each other using their ports for receiving and transmitting packets. A given one of the switches 5 operates as a master switch, which transmits instructions to the other switches 1, 2, 3 as command packets, and receives responses back from them as response packets. The slave switches 1, 2, 3 are connected pairwise. The command packets pass through the network until they reach a slave switch 1, 2, 3 to implement them, and the response 10 packets pass through the network to the master switch 5.

WO 2004/023722 A1